



## Road Update

December 15 – 28, 2005 • Issue 56

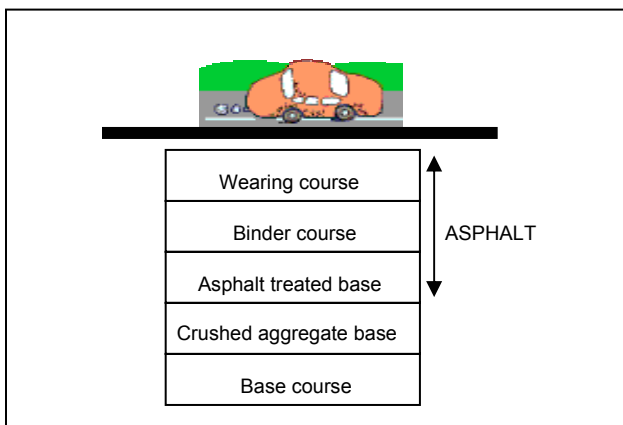
### KANDAHAR-HERAT HIGHWAY

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. USAID is also funding the security, de-mining, design, and construction management of the Saudi Section (Section 2).

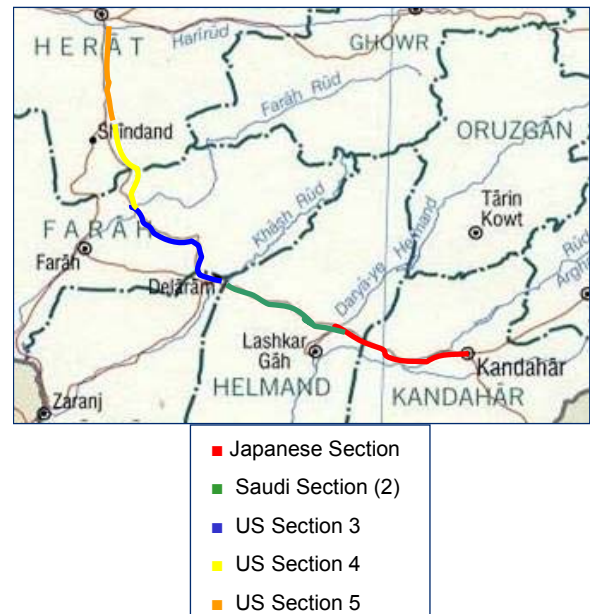
#### PROGRESS TO DATE

Demining, mobilizing, and design continue on **Section 2** (Km 116-231) has 65% of the project demined and under design. The bridge design updates are complete. The design for the first portion is complete. In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), asphalt pavement and all bridge works are complete, and shoulder work continues. In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), asphalt pavements and all but one bridge are complete.

#### Composition of a Road



#### Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections



The main focus continues to be the nearly completed bridge and shoulder works. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), bridge and culvert works continue, as does shoulder work. One hundred percent of the first and second layers of asphalt is complete (77 Km), and 20% of the wearing course is complete. Three bridges of 7 are 100% complete as well. All paving is currently halted due to cold winter weather.

USAID incorporates capacity building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase Afghan participation and commitment. During this period, 73% of the project's employees were Afghan nationals.

#### Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow





## Road Update Continued

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### Focus on Urban Roads: Bibi Mahro

Phase 1: North- and south-bound lanes are open to two-way traffic on the binder course. The north- and south-bound side drains are complete. The median curbing and infill is completed. Driveway culvert and curb work is ongoing in both directions. Both previously closed side roads are now open to public. Street light foundations are being constructed.

## PROVINCIAL ROADS HIGHLIGHTS

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

**Kabul-Gardez Road (125 km)** -- Section 1 (Km 3 to 45) and Section 2 (Km 45 to 87) are complete. For Section 3, the asphalt-treated base is complete from Km 87 to 89+700. Excavation for replacement waterline is on-going from Km 89+000 to Km 92+000. All work on this section was suspended during the Eid al-Fitr holidays. Snow removal maintenance is on standby to clear Tera Pass.

**Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35 km)** -- Rock excavation work is underway at Km 27+850 to 28+210. Stone masonry retaining wall work is on-going between Km 30+850 and Km 863.

**Jalalabad-Asmar Road (124 km)** -- Mobilization of security buildings at Km 103 and at a crusher plant at Km 66 is on-going. Culvert installations are on-going at various locations. Subgrade, subbase, and base work continue. Daily traffic count is being conducted.

**Sheberghan-Sari Pul Road (54 km)** -- This road was turned over to the Ministry of Public Works in November of 2005. The works are under warranty for one year. All designs, both soft and hard copies, have been turned over to the Ministry as well.



*Placement of side drain at the outer walls of Bibi Mahro Road in December 2005.*

**Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148 km)** -- All scheduled work is completed and being readied for turnover to Ministry of Public Works.

**Panjsher Road (70 km)** -- Section 1: Masonry culvert and retaining wall work are on-going at Km 11+321, 11+843, 16+595 and 17+418. Wing walls at Sadullah Bridge are complete. Section 2: 430 MT of base course has been produced at crusher 16+800, subbase has been placed between 11+140 and 11+210, and between Km 8+130 and 8+300.

**Farah-Ring Road (70 km)** -- Double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) 1<sup>st</sup> course has been placed between Km 34+460 and 35+300. Sub grade, subbase, and base course work is ongoing at various locations. Prime coat has been applied between Km 38+200 and 38+500.

**Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49 km)** -- Section 1 (Km 0 to 43): A new detour road has been constructed from Km 37 to Km 40. Crusher produced 1,820 MT of sealing aggregate. Subbase work is on-going between Km 33 and Km 34. Section 2 (Km 43 to 49): A construction survey has been conducted between Km 43+300 and Km 43+500.

**Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5 km)** -- Backfilling culverts has been completed between Km 42 and Km 47. Earthwork is on-going from Km 50 to 53 and surveying between Km 15 and Km 35.

### Road-Related Security Incidents for 2005

During 2005, there were 63 incidents along the Ring Road resulting in 3 kidnappings, 30 injuries and 24 deaths. USAID was directly affected in 21 cases and indirectly affected 37 times.

The main purpose of the security information is to provide a general update on security incidents as they relate to reconstruction in Afghanistan. The information is simply a mechanism for tracking security incidents and does not analyze incidents or attempt to discern the motives or affiliation of the perpetrators. The focus is the frequency of incidents and their impact on USAID's work and also that of the development community writ large. It does not attempt to track all incidents regularly faced in Afghanistan.